



# Reaching Heights

A Newsletter of Heights Christian Church

VOLUME 22, NO. 6

December 16, 2010

## JANUARY WORSHIP

In the midst of all the holiday celebrations, we continue to celebrate in worship on December 26<sup>th</sup> and January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our service on the day after Christmas will feature an opportunity to praise God with carols as we gather for an informal service in the Campbell Room.

On January 9<sup>th</sup> Pastor Roger will be on vacation, but Rev. Ed Weisheimer, HCC member and former Regional Minister for Indiana, will be preaching.

Other dates:

January 16<sup>th</sup> – Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday

January 30<sup>th</sup> – Family Fifth Sunday



## HCC AT CAMPBELL COURT

Heights Christian Church members and the children from the Heights Co-operative Nursery School had special opportunities to connect with the residents of Campbell Court in December. On Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, the 3-year-old class (along with Shirley Reading)



walked over to make stone soup. Great fun (and delicious soup) was had by all. The idea for this project came from the Outreach committee and the activity will be repeated in March.

Sunday evening, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 21 Heights members gathered for crafts, packing fruit bags and a light supper before heading over to Campbell Court for a caroling party. Lots of Christmas carols were sung, cookies (baked by HCC children) and punch were enjoyed, and everyone had a wonderful time.



## CHURCH CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 27TH -31ST

The church staff will have the week between Christmas and New Year's Day off to spend time with their families. Staff will work ahead as much as possible before Christmas Eve and will also have the flexibility to come into the office when it is convenient to complete what needs to be done for January 2<sup>nd</sup>'s worship. All phone messages will be monitored and addressed in case of emergencies. We are very pleased to give this gift to our hard working personnel after a year of dedicated service. Its value is appreciated and does not affect our budget!

# Along The Path...



"In the bleak midwinter, frosty winds made moan..." This carol from the 19<sup>th</sup> century more accurately describes our weather than the weather that Mary, Joseph, and their newborn would have experienced in Bethlehem; even if the birth had happened in early winter. So maybe we should understand the descriptions of cold, hard weather found in many carols as metaphors for human hearts (including ours) that need the warmth of God's love made real in an infant come to change our lives forever.

As we move into another new year, let's fan the flames and spread the warmth around.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to you and yours!

## ...IN OUR PRAYERS

It's the season when our focus turns often to babies. (Did our wonderful God really become a baby?) Babies are pretty amazing. They can melt the most cynical heart; they can offer a new life-view by their untainted acceptance of you and by their swift smile of acceptance when you speak to them. They tease you---and yes, sometimes, try you with the monotonous repetition of their needs. But then again they come with no baggage; no ability or desire to criticize or judge you. Rather, they watch with curiosity, and often joy, frequently with quite prolonged attention. They wonder about you, want to get to know you and who you are.

Have you ever had the experience of holding a very young infant and feel it relax in your arms? You then might have sensed a melting into one another as your attention is totally focused on the baby. This can actually be a good analogy for prayer. Sometimes, we're able to focus our attention totally on God. --No words, no thoughts -- just a paying of attention, silent and total focus, and we slide effortlessly into the Presence of God within. May the stories of the birth of Jesus give you an opportunity to be silent and attentive and may you then be given the gift of that wordless connection to God that we call prayer.

Until next time,  
WE'LL KEEP YOU IN OUR PRAYERS



## BECAUSE YOU CARE

### Illness-Surgery-Hospitalization

Paul Hummel	Carol Green
Betty Klecka	Kitty Cardwell
Georgia Bibb	Eugene Blackwell
James Faust	Brady Macosko
Dorothy Mathis	Bob McWilliams
Beverly Coats	Scott Lemmon

### Serving in the Iraq War

Ilya Petrenko

### Births

Tucker James, born October 27  
Son of Adam and Maria Singerman  
Mike and Donita Singerman, grandparents

Eloise Ottilia, born December 10  
Daughter of Jeannine and Dinesh Joseph  
Joe and Bernadette LaGuardia, grandparents

### Deaths

Jean Bergold—former member, November 21  
Mary Krumlauf—member, December 13

Still pondering what to get  
that special someone  
for Christmas?

Ponder No More!

A Cat's Meow Replica of HCC  
With a brief history on the back!

\$20.00 each

Look for the table during coffee hour  
or call the church office to order



## AS ALWAYS ...

Many thanks to the helping hands who assisted in carrying boxes of decorations downstairs on Nov. 20th and decorated the Sanctuary, Campbell Room and Daleford Hallway on Nov. 27th. Everyone's efforts are truly appreciated! Many thanks to MarnyJean & Roger Careaga, Nancy Carpenter, Neil & Florence Chase, Jim Donald, Natalie Eichar, Joe & Bernadette LaGuardia, Grace Loudenstein, Karen McKeehan & Jim Nicks, Oleg Nikolenko, Roger & Debbie Osgood, Jim & Liz Perdue, Mike & Donita Singerman, Don Troha, Larry & Anita Watson and Ed Weisheimer.



The Outreach Committee would like to thank HCC's many members and friends who gave of their hearts in support of the Christmas Giving Tree for the Interfaith Hospitality Network families.

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## HCC WILL HOST THE INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

IHN Host Week is coming back to Heights Christian Church very soon—January 9th -15th. We thank all those who helped with the November visit and ask for help again from all members in January. Look for the sign-up board in the Campbell Room. You can also contact Joan Fronck or Andrena Sharp. We remind any who took laundry in November to please return by January 7th.



Our own group here at the church is in need of more towels for our guests to use during their stay. We are asking for donations of new or gently used bath towels, and wash cloths. You can leave them in the office or choir room marked for IHN. We thank you for your help and continued support for this important outreach.

## HELP NEEDED

**Saturday, January 8—9:30 a.m.**



On Saturday, January 8, help is needed to take down the decorations and carefully pack them in storage for another year. Contact Donita Singerman or Bernadette LaGuardia to volunteer your help. Lots of hands will make this a very quick and fun workday.

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## OFFERING ENVELOPES

The new 2011 offering envelopes for those who made Stewardship Campaign pledges in the fall are now in. The envelopes are a gentle reminder to be regular in fulfilling our promises. They are more convenient to mail, as they are pre-addressed security envelopes. Pick up your 2011 envelopes anytime after Christmas in the Campbell Room.



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## CWF LUNCHEON

**Wednesday, January 26—12 Noon**

In the first three months of the New Year, Christian Women's Fellowship will be discussing passages from "Unbinding Your Soul". On January 26th, we will look at "Risk Taking". On February 23rd, "Faith Sharing" and on March 23rd, "Connect the Dots between Church and the Community."

Join us in the Campbell Room for a luncheon at 12:00 Noon on the 4th Wednesday of each month to learn and share your faith journey. Bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship. Please call the church office to make your reservation for January's luncheon.



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## ADULT FORUM

The months of January and February will be celebrating the contributions of the life and witness of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other Black Leaders who have shown us the importance of working for social justice and peace.



The Kent State Wick Poetry Center will be rescheduled (due to weather) so that we may learn positive techniques such as poetry, writing and art projects that can transform how we respond to traumatic events (i.e.. Kent State shootings - 40 years ago).



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## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### The Heifer Project



The 2<sup>nd</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> graders have decided to make monetary contributions to a Heifer project. They have expressed compassion for children in countries who don't have the access to things as simple as enough food to eat or clean water. They themselves have given of their worldly monetary possessions and to date have raised \$14.00. They are asking your help by putting any extra change you have in the glass container located in the Campbell Room beginning January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Expect more information periodically in the Sunday bulletin.

### Soup/Chili Supper & Game Night Friday, January 28—6:30 p.m.

The Children and Youth Committee is joining the Hospitality Committee in our annual Soup 'n Chili family fun night. Join us with your prize winning, family secret soup or chili dish. We will taste and taste and oh boy maybe eat too much as we indulge in the wonderful dishes that you have always provided. Then it will be game time. Oh! And don't forget to bring family members, friends, neighbors and games to play.



Don't have or can't make a favorite Soup or Chili dish? We will need a few contributions of bread and deserts. Watch for sign up slips in our January Sunday bulletins.